

A road or driveway crossing a stream and a wetland has collapsed. Do I need a permit to repair the road or driveway?

A Flood Hazard Area Permit and a Freshwater Wetland Permit are required for activities in floodplains and wetlands, respectively. However, emergency permits may be authorized under the Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act Rules and the Flood Hazard Area Control Act Rules when conditions warrant immediate action to protect the environment and/or public health, safety and welfare. Roads and driveways are essential for the delivery of emergency services or for the safe travel and evacuation of citizens. Therefore, the repair of roads and driveways can be authorized under an emergency permit.

A tree in the wetland and floodplain next to my house is leaning towards my house. Do I need a permit to remove this tree?

The removal of a damaged tree or the selective trimming of trees in wetlands and floodplains does not require a permit from the Department.

Can I conduct storm preparation and post-storm beach restoration activities on my beach without any authorization from the NJDEP? If as a result of the approaching hurricane, there is an imminent threat to lives and property, you may undertake pre and post-storm beach restoration without the benefit of a NJDEP permit. However, you must coordinate with the appropriate state emergency personnel before conducting the activity and contact the NJDEP immediately after the storm has subsided to receive a permit for the activities. If your beach benefits from a Coastal General Permit for beach and dune maintenance permit, you can conduct pre and post-storm beach restoration activities without additional authorization.

What beach storm readiness or restoration activities can I conduct before or after a sizable storm, such as the predicted coastal storm Hurricane Irene? Beach restoration activities, as part of an emergency storm preparation and post-storm recovery, include: the placement of clean fill material with grain size compatible with (or larger than) the existing beach material; the bulldozing of sand from the lower beach profile to the upper beach profile; the alongshore transfer of sand on a beach; the placement of concrete or rubble; and the placement of sand filled geotextile bags or tubes is preferred to the placement of concrete, rubble or other material.

Can I place sand, gravel, rubble, concrete or other inert material, as part of storm readiness or an emergency post-storm beach restoration plan? Yes, as long as all material is non-toxic and is temporary. All concrete and rubble placed on the beach shall be removed within 90 days, unless the placement is part of a Department approved, engineered design for permanent shore protection. The use of automobiles, tires, wood debris, asphalt, appliances or other solid waste is prohibited.

Sand filled geotextile bags or geotubes is acceptable, as long as they meet the following standards: if dunes are present, the geotextile bags or geotubes shall be placed along the toe of any scarped dune, or seaward of the dune toe, not on the dune itself. Fill material shall be from an upland source, excluding the beach and dune.